

# **Intelligence Committee Budget for 2001 and 2002**

## **STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE NANCY PELOSI**

**March 1, 2001**

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to appear in support of the budget requested by Chairman Goss for the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence for 2001 and 2002.

The committee will experience a 25% growth in membership in the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress and will engage in additional oversight activities, among them a focused review, as requested by the Speaker, of the threat posed by terrorism to the interests of the United States, at home and abroad. These additional activities necessitate additional budgetary and personnel resources, as noted in the chairman's request. I want to underscore the fact that the committee occupies a relatively small space in the Capitol and has operated historically with a small staff, usually numbering about twenty-four. Whatever the number of additional staff ultimately approved, they obviously will have to be housed somewhere, and the exiting committee spaces are about at their limit. More space will have to be found.

I want to make three points about the budget request:

First, Mr. Goss committed to my predecessors that Democrats would control one-third of the funds provided to the committee in the personnel compensation budget category. He kept that commitment in the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress and has done so again in his budget submission for the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Second, although the Democrats control one-third of the personnel compensation budget, we do not control one-third of the overall budget. The remainder of the budget, which goes for such things as equipment, supplies, travel, and consultant fees, is much smaller than is the portion devoted to compensation, and it has been the committee's experience, under both Democratic and Republican majorities, that it was most efficient to have this portion of the budget administered by the majority in the interests of the committee as a whole. The interests of the minority have been protected adequately for the most part by this approach, and I expect that if Democrats identified particular needs in these expenditure areas, the chairman would be responsive to them.

Third, the Democrats control seven staff positions out of the current staff ceiling of twenty-six. Although this is less than a one-third percentage, several of